



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114 (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: Joseph P. Fox
Joseph P. Fox
Registration No. 41,760



Sheet 1 of 1

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office | Attorney Docket No.: 4319.70110 | Serial No.: 10/802,006 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | | Applicant: Hidehiko Suzuki |
| Filing Date: March 16, 2004 | | Group: 2871 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| | 5,459,598 | Oct. 17, 1995 | Carrington | 359 | 81 | Jan. 15, 1993 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |

| Examiner | Date Considered |
|------------|---|
| *Examiner: | Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |